

Application No.: 10/756,829**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JUN 18 2007****REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application in which claims 1, 8-12 are independent.

Claims 8-9 and 12-18 are withdrawn from consideration for being drawn to non-elected claims.

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant's June 12, 2006 Response to Restriction Requirement elected Group I claims for prosecution in response to Restriction Requirement dated April 11, 2006 that identified Group I to include claims 1-7 and 10-11. Regrettably, Applicant's response included a clerical error that identified Group I as "Claims 1-7."

Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the election of claims as originally set out in the Restriction Requirement. Furthermore, this response indicates the status of claims 10-11 as "Presently Presented."

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner indicated that certain reference in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on 04.11.2006 have not been considered because the citations fail to provide a date. A supplemental IDS has been submitted concurrently herewith.

However, it is noted that the Examiner has failed to consider certain other references cited in the same IDS that are in full compliance with the provisions set out by the CFR and MPEP. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and acknowledge these other references at issue.

Claim Objections

Claim 6 is objected to for being improperly dependent on itself. Claim 6 has been amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully solicited.

Application No.: 10/756,829

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Publication No. 2002/0062206 to Liebchen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Liebchen approaches a problem in the prior art in a manner different from the present invention. Liebchen approximates the transmission cross-coefficient function ("TCC") as a bilinear form of a basis function with kernel $A[ij]$ for solving the Hopkins model. In other words, Liebchen fails to disclose "creating an interference map of a predetermined order based on the at least one impulse function and *the TCC function*," as claim 1 recites. (Emphasis Added). Moreover, the Examiner cites to Liebchen's reference to the TCC function out of context. Specifically, paragraphs 0003 and 0007-0009 of Liebchen generally discuss the TCC function and the complexities presented in the context of the prior art. The other sections of Liebchen relied on by the Examiner as allegedly disclosing other claim elements discusses the manner in which to obviate the need to use the TCC function – inapposite to the requirements of claim 1.

Also, Liebchen fails to disclose "representing at least one resolvable feature of a mask to be printed on the substrate by *at least one impulse function*; and creating an interference map of a predetermined order based on the *at least one impulse function* and the TCC function," as claim 1 recites. (Emphasis Added). Paragraphs 0007-0009, 0066, and 0240 cited by the Examiner fails to disclose the at least one impulse function. In particular, paragraph 0007 indicates that "the Hopkins model treats the electric field forming the image typically as a scalar..." Paragraph 0066 provides a definition for a Gamma-function. These and the other citations by the Examiner do not correspond "at least one impulse function" and the application of that function in the context of the claims.

Application No.: 10/756,829

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

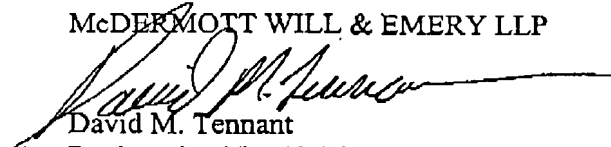
Claims 10 and 11 are allowable for the same reasons indicated above.

This application stands in condition for allowance. If the Examiner wishes to discuss any other issues with the attorney of record, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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